

SUICIDE PREVENTION NETWORK PREPARES FOR UPCOMING SUMMIT

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The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) hosted the quarterly meeting of the Los Angeles County Suicide Prevention Network at headquarters on Friday, July 24, 2015. The Suicide Prevention Network's mission is to promote public and professional awareness, education, training and engagement regarding suicide and suicide prevention, intervention and postvention.

More than 20 members of the network gathered in the tenth floor conference room to share information and resources about upcoming events and activities related to the group. This particular meeting focused on upcoming events: the World Suicide Prevention Day Conference (Thursday, September 10, 2015 at the California Endowment) and the Suicide Prevention Summit (Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at Cal State Northridge).

With only three months to go, LACDMH and the network members are preparing for the Suicide Prevention Summit which will be focused on high school and college students. With students facing complex issues, network members acknowledged the need to offer a variety of workshops for attendees to participate in.

In Los Angeles County alone (in 2013), there were 2,049 suicide attempts by teens (15-19 years old) and 1,524 attempts by young adults (20-24 years old). In 2013, there were 28 suicides by teens (15-19 years old) and 55 by young adults (20-24 years old). Because of these statistics, the summit is aimed at educating teens and young adults as well as anyone involved in their lives, including family members, friends/peers, educators, clinicians, faith-based community members and advocates. They hope to provide insight and awareness on early signs and prevention. The Suicide Prevention Networks plans to open registration for the summit in August.



For more information about the network or the summit, contact suicideprevention@dmh.lacounty.gov.